



DATE: June 19, 2018

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Police

TITLE: **Proposed Response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report, *Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes***

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the draft response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report, *Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes* (Attachment 1 to the Council report).

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 933 of the California Penal Code, public agency governing bodies are required to comment on grand jury findings and recommendations no later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report. The Fiscal Year 2017-18 Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury issued a report entitled, *Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes* on May 9, 2018. The report addressed the Grand Jury's review of law enforcement mental health training policies and made recommendations for improving the depth of training, number of officers trained, current Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) class protocols, and the deployment of "in-the-field" mental health professional teams. The report is provided as Attachment 2.

The Police Department has a longstanding policy and practice of providing professional police services in a manner that incorporates communication and de-escalation when possible, especially as it relates to dealing with people who are having a mental health crisis. To that end, the Police Department agrees with the spirit of The Grand Jury's findings where additional and ongoing training on this topic is welcomed and incorporated into our day to day operations.

ANALYSIS

The Fiscal Year 2017-18 Santa Clara Civil Grand Jury reviewed and surveyed Santa Clara County law enforcement agencies to determine the types and frequency of Crisis Intervention Training. The Grand Jury also looked at the relationship between officer-involved shootings in the County (2013 to 2017), police use of force, and the number of

subjects who were suffering from a mental health crisis during those encounters. From that information, the Grand Jury made a series of findings and recommendations to formalize Crisis Intervention Technique training and ensure more police department staff receive the training.

It should be noted that while the Grand Jury report infers that the Mountain View Police Department only requires Field Training Officers (FTOs) to receive Crisis Intervention Training, the Police Department already includes Crisis Intervention Training, Tactical Communication, and Deescalation Technique Training to Officers and Dispatchers. To date, 33 sworn Officers and 7 Dispatchers have taken said training beyond what is mandated for Field Training Officers.

The draft response agrees with the findings in the report and notes the steps the Police Department will take to comply with the Grand Jury's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT

Per the Grand Jury's recommendation (2B), Police Department staff will examine the training budget and make recommendations in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget for funding which will allow Officers and Dispatchers to attend ongoing crisis intervention, deescalation, and tactical communication training as part of the department training plan.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Provide direction to revise the response.
2. Do not respond to the Grand Jury.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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Approved by:

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CSH/MP/2/CAM
189-06-19-18CR-E

- Attachments: 1. Grand Jury Letter from Mayor
2. Report: *Police and the Mentally Ill: Improving Outcomes*